

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Washington D.C. 20243

B-3037



HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION

APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: n/a
Address of property Street 724 Light Street
City Baltimore County n/a State Maryland Zip Code 21230
Name of historic district in which property is located Federal Hill National Register Historic District

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:
(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)
Three story masonry Victorian storefront built circa 1840. Front elevation has four window openings. Roof has slight pitch from front to rear. Entire interior is of wood construction using 2x10 joists. Basic plan of building is rectangular. The building is an integral part of the 700 block of Light Street in this most important row of 10 structures which provide high visibility to the Inner Harbor Area.
3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
(use reverse side if necessary)
The front elevation of the building had been covered with permastone during recent years and in the process of removing it, it was impossible to save the original brick. Consequently, the entire front elevation was rebuilt using new brick much like the original brick. The major portion of the three remaining walls were preserved.
Date of construction (if known): _____ ☐ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known): _____

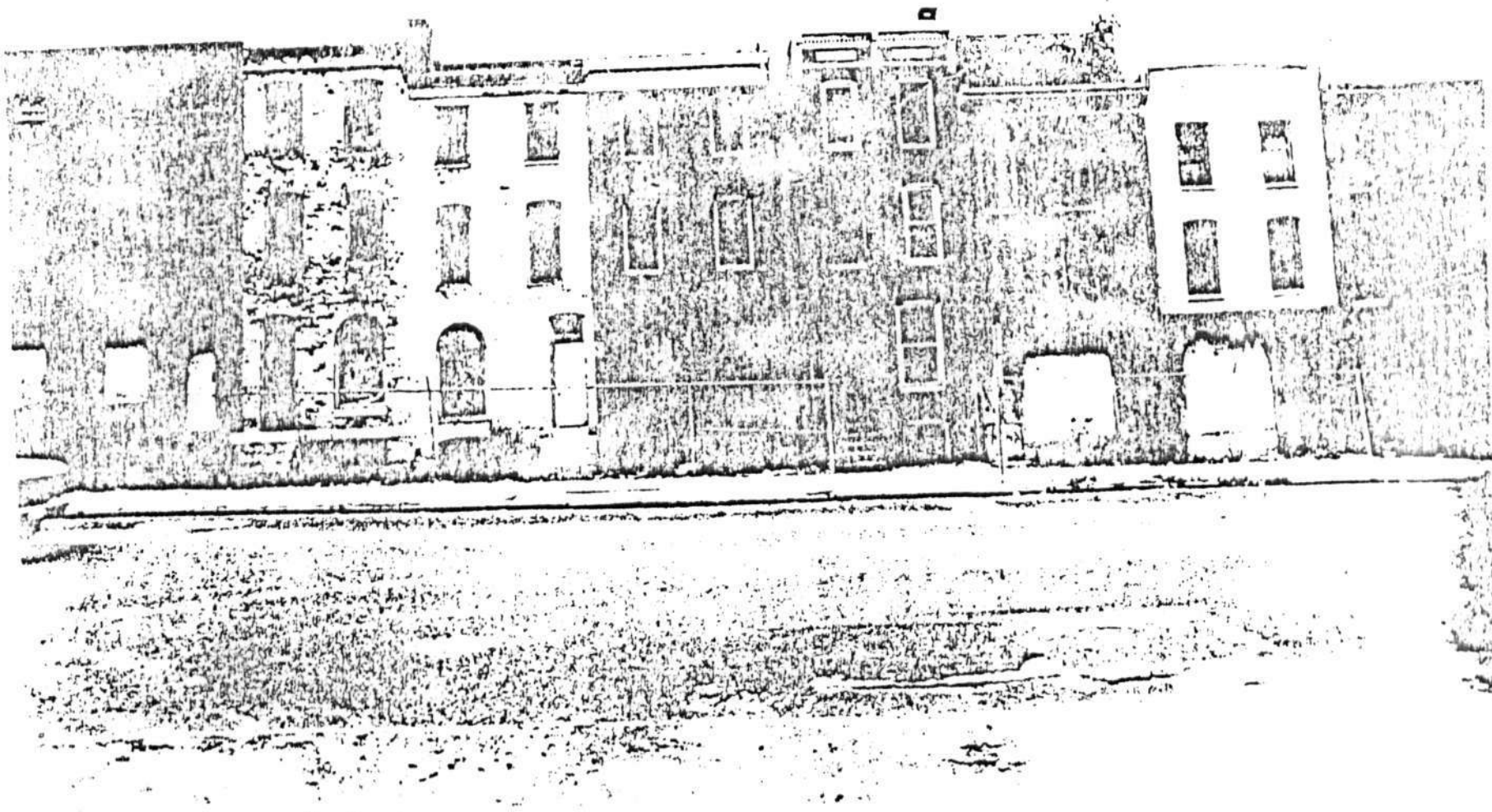
4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:
Name RAR Associates ATTN: Ron Russo
Street 723 S. Charles Street State Maryland Zip Code 21230
City Baltimore
Telephone Number (during day): _____ Area Code: _____
I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above
Signature [Signature] Date 5/18/82

For office use only
The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes / does not contribute to the character of the district.
The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).
The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6). ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of the district.
Signature [Signature] State Historic Preservation Officer Date 5-20-82

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.
☐ is hereby certified a historic structure
☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.
Signature _____ Date _____
Keeper of the National Register

B-3037

728 June 1957



A23

B-3037
717 Light St.
Baltimore, Md.
Private access

1850-1851

This four story high, four bay wide brick building with shed roof and Greek Revival style cast iron window lintels most recently served as a local funeral parlor. The entire first floor area of the facade facing on Light St. is faced with cut stone set on a black marble base. As built in 1850, the house was a three story shed-roofed structure that was later remodeled with a mansard roof. The building was built by William Armstrong and John Denny to serve originally as a cabinetmaking establishment. Armstrong and Denny, however, soon branched out into the undertaking business as did many cabinetmakers in their day. Thus, the building has served as a funeral parlor for over a hundred years. The building is currently unoccupied but has recently been sold by the city to private developers who plan to renovate it.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3037
MAGI 0430372511

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Denny Building

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

717 Light St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER: restoration

contemplated

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The present structure at 717 Light St., known as the Denny Building, was built originally as a four story, four bay wide shed-roofed structure in 1850. It appears as such in Sachse's 1858 Bird's Eye View of Baltimore. Sometime in the 1870's the facade was remodeled and a tall mansard roof added. This intermediate stage of the building can be seen in a photograph in the collection of the Peale Museum and on file at the Sunpapers. The current appearance of the building dates from the 1920's.

The building is four stories in height, about 30' wide and 55' deep. The building is located on the north-east corner of Light and E. Montgomery Streets, with the entrance on Light St. and extending back along Montgomery St. four bays. The building is constructed in running bond. The shed roof, which extends back in three stages, is capped by a simple stone cornice, with flat stonework band extending across both facades at the frieze level. There are two single chimnies located at the east end of the building.

The window lintels on the second, third, and fourth floor windows of the Light St. facade date probably to the 1850's building. They are Greek Revival in style, with a central shell motif flanked by acanthus foliage carved on their stone face. The sills are all brick header sills. The Montgomery St. facade apparently at one time had similar lintels but they have been removed and replaced with vertical stretch lintels. All of the window openings are currently boarded over.

The entrance facade on Light St. has been faced entirely with stone, with black marble marking the basement level and framing the wide entrance. This stone facade extends around the Montgomery St. side of the building for the depth of one bay. The stone first floor facade is capped by a simple dentilled cornice. Two small, square windows flank the doorway with a third square window marking the Montgomery St. side of the facade. Above the doorway are the letters "J.H. Fenic" in applied stonework, indicating the name of the last previous funeral parlor establishment to occupy the building. Each of the small, square windows is set with an eight-light casement panel. The wide doors are set some feet within the entryway, reached by a flight of black marble steps. There are also two doors located on the Montgomery St. facade. Each of these entrances has a double paneled door set beneath a four light transom. Two stone steps lead to each of these side doors.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1850-51

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Armstrong and John Denny

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This large imposing building is significant as representing a remodeling of the original three story structure built on this site in 1850 by Armstrong and Denny to serve as their cabinetmaking and chair-making establishment. As with many cabinetmakers of the period they later also operated as undertakers in this same building. The building continued in operation as a funeral home until 1970 when it was sold by John F. Denny, Inc. to the Mayor and City Council as part of the proposed I-95 corridor. The building has recently been purchased by a group of investors who plan to convert it into apartments.

Although the building was constructed with a shed roof, an imposing mansard roof was added in the 1870's and can be seen in turn of the century photographs of the building. This later roof, however, was taken off when the building underwent the 1920's remodeling that resulted in its current appearance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

DATE

5/79

STREET & NUMBER

1745 Circle Rd.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ruxton

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

B-3037

HIGHWAY

890

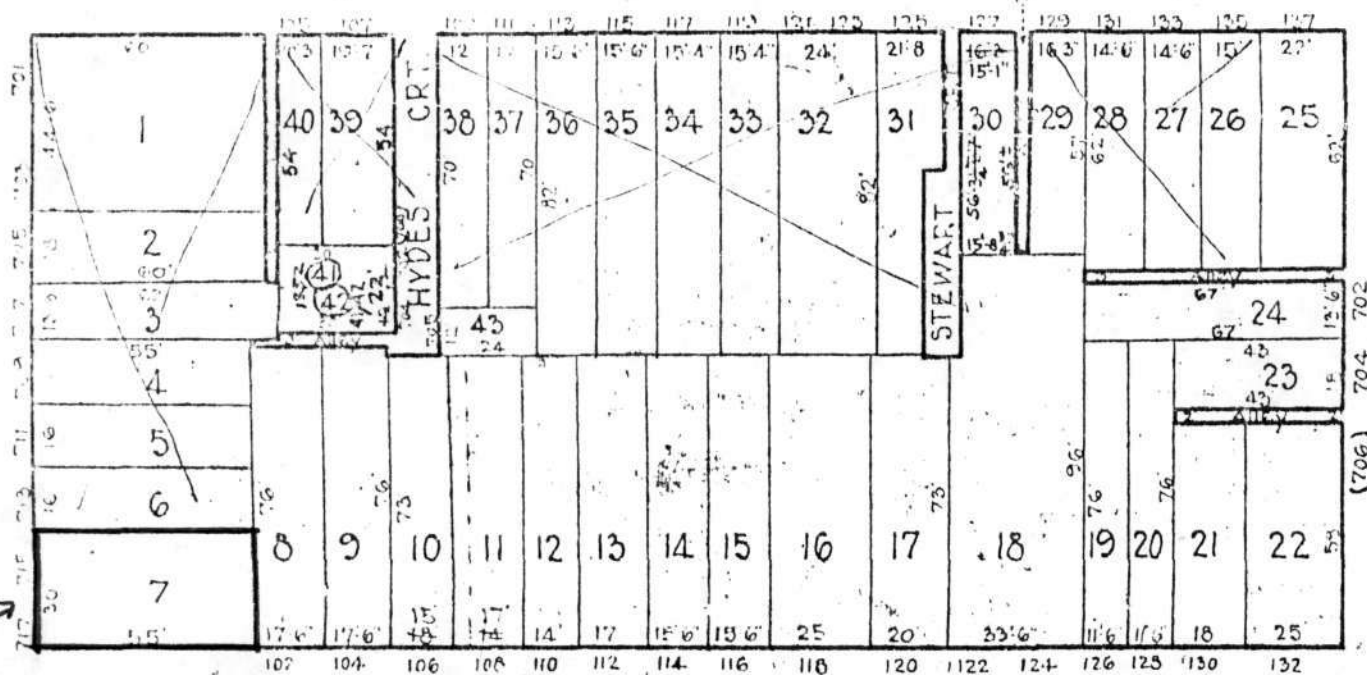
E. HUGHES

KEY HWY

ST.

(E. HUGHES ST.)

KEY
HWY.



B-3037

E. MONTGOMERY

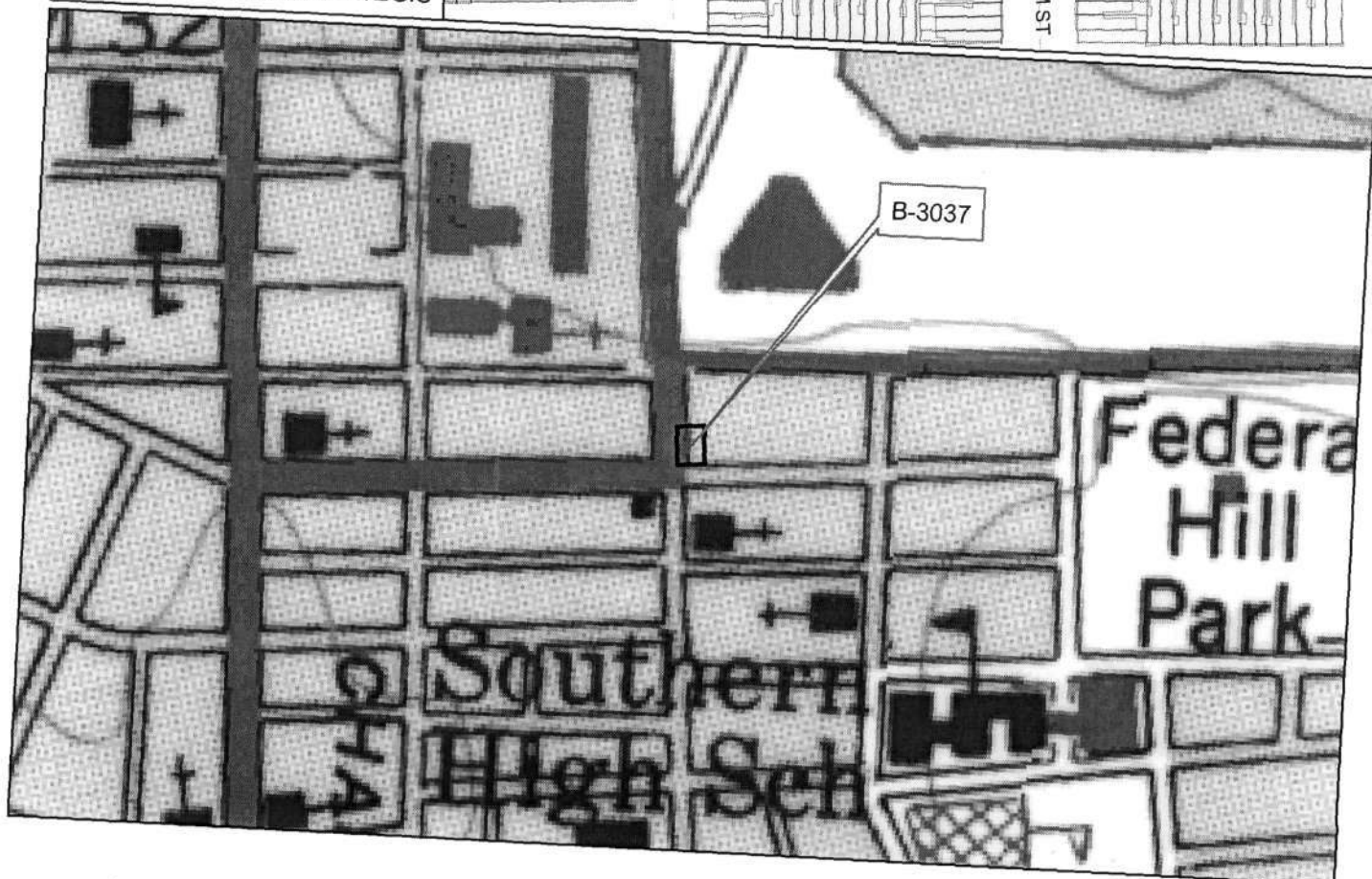
ST.

WILLIAM

ST.

900

B-3037
Denny Building
717 Light Street
Block 0899 Lot 001
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3037 717 Light St.

M.E.H. 4/79

West and south elevations